TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 22, 2002 LB 1236

not sure what the right approach was but I thought I'd use them I can't believe, in a way, what I'm hearing from the floor. It appears that from many of you, you're saying, gosh, we want to keep that State Fair; and if we don't do this, we're going to lose the State Fair. We're going to lose all those nostalgic things that we remember when we were in 4-H. That has nothing to do with what we're talking about here. What we're talking about is structure and we are talking about continuing the State Fair. But what I am very, very concerned about is starting off on this program that I do not believe is going to change anything. And I think then we walk away and we say, well, we sure took care of that problem. We didn't take care of anything and I'd like to have us view it in that way. why I put up my bracket motion originally was I think we'd be better off to do nothing than to do the wrong thing, and I think that we're headed off in that direction. I'm concerned there's conversation to the effect that we're going to affect the new manager; let's see what he has to do; let's see if he can make Well, I think that's a good idea. There isn't this go. anything that I'm saying that would affect that, so I don't understand that approach. I think we have not taken into account in our discussion, or even our thought process, the demographic changes that have taken place in the state of Nebraska. We started this fair, what did I say, in 1859 and we have a lot of the same concepts now that we had then, and I...we have a demographic change in that we have an urban community now and a rural community, and I see that this is a matter that we need to be responsive to our...to our citizenry. I have a I know Senator Wehrbein is doing something here talking to Senator Jones, but I had a question of Senator Wehrbein. Perhaps you could speak right from there. Perhaps he won't. (Laughter)

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Senator Wehrbein, I know from a lot of familiarity with you, that you're interested in numbers and money. You know that the Fair Board approached us for \$4 million, \$4.4 million, in order to do basic renovation of the structures. Where under your program are...are they going to get \$4.4 million? From us?